

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS USCTB

PASS TO DOE

E.O.11652:XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM US UK UR
SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: COMMENTS OF SOVIET TECHNICAL
CHIEF ON US PROPOSAL FOR LIMITED DURATION TREATY

CTB MESSAGE NO.238

1. AT JUNE 7 LUNCHEON WITH SEVERAL MEMBERS OF US DELEGATION COL. TARASOV (USSR) STATED THAT UNDER A FIVE-YEAR TREATY THERE WOULD BE A HIGH DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE IN STOCKPILE RELIABILITY AND THUS THERE WOULD BE NO INCENTIVE FOR A PARTY TO EVADE. THEREFORE WE NEED BE LESS CONCERNED THAT A PARTY MIGHT ATTEMPT EVASION AND IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RECONSIDER WHAT OUR REAL VERIFICATION NEEDS WERE IN THIS NEW SITUATION. VERIFICATION MEASURES FOR A TREATY OF LIMITED DURATION NEED NOT BE AS ELABORATE AS THOSE THAT HAD BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE US DEL. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE US SHOULD RECONSIDER ITS POSITION.

2. GILLER (US) RESPONDED BY EMPHASIZING THAT WE WOULD
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HAVE TO BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND CONGRESS THAT WE HAD A HIGH DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE THAT THE TREATY HAD IN FACT BEEN COMPLIED WITH DURING ITS FIVE-YEAR TERM. THIS WOULD BE A REQUIREMENT FOR UNDERTAKING ANY FUTURE TREATY.

3. THE DISCUSSION TURNED TO THE DIFFICULTIES THAT WOULD

BE ENCOUNTERED IN CONDUCTING AN OSI IN A COUNTRY SUCH AS THE USSR WHICH HAD VAST WILDERNESS AREAS AND SEVERE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS. IT WAS AGREED THAT BOTH SIDES WOULD PROBABLY BE ANXIOUS TO PROVE THAT NO VIOLATION HAD OCCURED AND WOULD SHARE FACILITIES AND CAPABILITIES IN SEEKING TO PROVE THAT THE UNIDENTIFIED EVENT WAS A NATURAL PHENOMENON. PATRAKEYEV (USSR) SAID US DESIGNATED PERSONNEL "WOULD BE ISSUED TENTS AND SLEEPING BAGS AND SHARE ALL HARDSHIPS EQUALLY" WITH THEIR SOVIET COLLEAGUES. JOHNSON

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